



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Cecilia String Quartet to Perform at Central Library *Acclaimed Canadian Group Will Feature Music by Haydn and Schumann*

SAN DIEGO – The third concert of the 2009 Winter/Spring Concert Series of the City of San Diego Public Library will take place on Sunday, March 15 with the Cecilia String Quartet (Sarah Nematallah and Min-Jeong Koh, violins; Caitlin Boyle, viola; Rebecca Wenham, cello). The FREE program will be held at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San Diego.

The concert will include Joseph Haydn's "Sunrise" Quartet, op. 76, no. 4 in B-flat major, one of six quartets Haydn composed in 1796 and 1797, while employed at the court of Prince Nicolaus Esterházy II. The works were commissioned by and dedicated to Count Joseph Erdody, and were the last complete set that Haydn composed. Also on the program will be Robert Schumann's Quartet in A major, op. 41, no. 3, one of three string quartets that he composed in the summer of 1842. This composition is considered the finest of the three, displaying much of the creativity found in Schumann's best works.

Praised for their "extraordinary commitment and maturity" (*Montreal Gazette*) and "talent, passion and mastery" (Jacques Robert, JR Multimedia), the Cecilia String Quartet (CSQ) is one of Canada's most exciting emerging ensembles today. Second-Prize winners of the 2008 Osaka International Chamber Music Competition and winners of the 2007 Galaxie Rising Stars Award in Canada, they are currently recipients of the Joseph Fisch and Joyce Axelrod String Quartet residency at San Diego State University in association with the La Jolla Music Society.

Since their inception in 2004, the quartet has held residencies at Laurier University, the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and the University of Toronto where

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the quartet was formed. Their debut performance at the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto was met with high praise, and their first season culminated in the receipt of the Felix Galimir Award for Chamber Music Excellence after only 6 months as a quartet. Subsequently, they participated in the Juilliard String Quartet Seminar in New York, the Stanford Chamber Music Seminar in California, and the Schleswig-Holstein Chamber Music Festival in Germany. One of two quartets invited to attend the 2006 Deer Valley Music Festival's Emerging Quartets and Composers Program in Utah, the group has worked extensively with the Muir Quartet and Joan Tower to premiere Belinda Reynolds' *Static Motion*, a work commissioned for the Cecilia String Quartet by the festival. In summer 2007, the CSQ were fellows at the Aspen Music Festival and School in the prestigious Advanced String Quartet Studies Program.

The CSQ has performed across North America on series such as the Barrie Colours of Music Festival, the Toronto Music Garden, the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society, Chamber Music Hamilton, the Northern Lights Music Festival in Ajijic, Mexico, and the Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival. They also recently toured Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia with Jeunesses Musicales Canada on their Desjardins Concert Series. This past summer the CSQ were Shouse Artists at the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival in Michigan and the Resident String Quartet at the Austin Chamber Music Festival in Texas. Upcoming highlights include a debut performance for the La Jolla Music Society in California and the third of a three-concert appearance on Music Toronto's Discovery Series.

The Cecilia String Quartet takes its name from St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music. They have worked with members of the Juilliard, Emerson, Tokyo, Takacs, St. Lawrence, Ying, American, Penderecki, and Orford Quartets. Members of the CSQ have attended the University of Toronto, the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, the HARID Conservatory of Music, the New England Conservatory, the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, and the Hochschule für Musik und Theatre München in Munich, Germany.

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The concert is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at the Five Star Parking lot adjacent to the Library on Broadway and 8th. In addition, parking meters are not enforced on Sundays, and other pay parking lots are available in the vicinity of the library.

For further information, please call the Library's Art, Music and Recreation Section at 236-5810, or visit the Library web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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